May 21, 1998

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Pat Embree 508 F Street Davis, CA 95616

Mr. Lester Snow CALFED Bay-Delta Program 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

It has been brought to my attention that several sites along the western edge of the Sacramento Valley are being considered for reservoirs. These areas include Sites, Newville, Colusa, and various tributaries of the Cottonwood Creek drainage system. Numerous scientific papers have shown that significant paleontological resources exist along most of the Western Sacramento Valley. Reservoirs constructed in the this region would likely affect a paleontological resource.

I currently know of three paleontological assessment reports conducted along the valley's western margin. These include:

Hanson, C.B., 1984, Black Butte Lake paleontological findings Appendix D in Black Butte Lake Projects Glen and Tehama Counties, California: U.S. Corps Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District.

Rodda, P.U., and Murphy, M.A., 1985, Paleontological Survey Cottonwood Creek Project: U.S. Corps Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District.

Lawler and Associates Applied Geoscience, 1995, Paleontological Resources Assessment SMUD Cogeneration Pipeline Project, Sacramento Valley Region-California.

All these assessments recorded substantial fossil finds.

CEQA Appendix I Environmental Checklist Form under Environmental Impacts, part XIV (Cultural Resources) asks..."Would the proposal disturb paleontological resources?"

I pose the following two questions: Is CALFED going to conduct paleontological assessment reports on the proposed reservoir sites? Are mitigations concerning fossil finds in resevoir and/or dam construction sites being planned?

Sincerely,

Pat Embree

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